## **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**



FIRE DEPARTMENT

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P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

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June 18, 2003

TO: HONORABLE MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

FROM: P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

## USE OF HELICOPTERS IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY

As part of our continuing dialogue about helicopter usage, this memo is to make you aware of two major incidents that occurred in the last 24 hours in the Antelope Valley.

On June 17, 2003 at approximately 9:30 p.m. there was a traffic collision at Pearblossom Highway and 40<sup>th</sup> Street E in Palmdale. One male civilian, with an unstable airway, and one female civilian with chest and abdominal trauma, were transported via Los Angeles County Fire Department helicopters to Holy Cross Hospital in Mission Hills, the nearest trauma center. In addition, one male civilian with minor injuries was transported via AMR ambulance to Holy Cross Hospital.

On June 18, 2003 at approximately 8:38 a.m., the Los Angeles County Fire Department responded to a traffic collision at Fort Tejon and 106<sup>th</sup> Street E southeast of Palmdale. Department personnel called for additional resources including three helicopters. Department personnel found two vehicles involved in a traffic collision with one 17-year old female ejected on the side of the road, one six-year-old male fatality, and one 45-year-old female trapped in her vehicle. The 17-year-old was transported via helicopter and later pronounced dead at Holy Cross Hospital. Department personnel used the jaws of life to extricate the trapped 45-year-old woman from her vehicle, treated her on site, and transported her via helicopter to Holy Cross Hospital. In the other vehicle, a 77-year-old female was in critical condition with an altered level of consciousness, and was transported via helicopter to Holy Cross Hospital. The six-year-old fatality was transported by the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office.

## SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

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If you have any questions, or need additional information please call me.

## PMF:ec

c: Chief Administrative Officer Deputy Randi Tahara Deputy Joseph Charney Deputy Matt Knabe Deputy Louisa Ollague Deputy Jennifer Plaisted